Serial No.: 09/933,786

PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No.: NC 84,832

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending in the application. No claims are presently allowed.

Claims 1, 11, and 21 are amended to cancel the limitation that the shifting generates a shift carry operand.

Claims 1, 11, and 21 are amended to recite that the register is capable of transferring a shift carry operand to the shift post processor. Support for this amendment is found at paragraph 0035, lines 5-7. (The output of the SC register is the shift carry operand.)

Claims 1, 11, and 21 are amended to recite that the shift operand is stored in the register after any transfer of the shift carry operand. Support for this amendment is found at paragraphs 0042-0043. This describes that just before the second instruction the SC register contains ALO and AHI. During the instruction AHI is used by the shift post processor, and the output of the shifter, BLO and BHI is stored in the SC register.

Claims 1, 11, and 21 are amended to recite that an output is generated. Support for this amendment is found in paragraph 0055 (N-bit output) and Fig. 7.

Claims 1, 11, and 21 are amended to recite that the processing is based on a mask field instead of the offset parameter. It is disclosed within the claim the mask field is generated from the offset parameter.

Claims 1, 11, and 21 are amended for clarity to recite that the mask bits correspond to the bit positions of the shifted operand, instead of defining them.

Claims 1, 11, and 21 are amended to cancel "to be operated on" modifying the shifted operand as redundant.

Claims 6, 16, and 26 are amended to correct the claim dependency.

New claims 31-33 recite that the shift carry operand is used in the processing in response to the use shift carry signal. Support for this amendment is found in paragraph 0059.

Docket Number

Applicant requests that the docket number of the application be changed to NC 84,832 in the USPTO records.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being

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indefinite. Specifically, claims 1, 11, and 21 were rejected for lack of clarity regarding the use of
the shift carry operand and the mask bits.

      The amended claims clarify that the shift carry operand may be transferred from the
register to the shift post processor. The shift post processor may use the shift carry operand as
part of the processing as in claims 6, 9, 16, 19, 26, 29, and 31-33.

      These claims were also rejected for lack of clarity regarding the use of the mask bits,
specifically for the phrase "each of the mask bits defining a bit position of the shifted operand to
be operated on." By this amendment, "defining" is changed to "corresponding to." The use of
the mask bits is that they make up the mask field used in the shift post processing.

      In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for
allowance.

      In the event that a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0281,
and in the event that there is a credit due, please credit Deposit Account No. 50-0281.

                         Respectfully submitted,

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